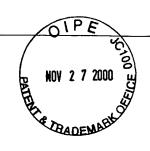


November 27, 2000



1299 Pennsylvania Ave., NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2402 PHONE 202.783.0800 Fax 202.383.6610 A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

RECEIVED

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents** Washington, DC 20231

Re:

U.S. Utility Application No. 09/233,218

Filed:

January 20, 1999;

Group Art Unit: 1601

For:

Nucleic Acid Molecules and Other Molecules Associated with the Tetrapyrrole Pathway

Inventors: Claire A. CAJACOB et al.

Atty. Docket: 04983.0025.00US01/38-21(15090)B

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) are the following documents:

- 1. Response to Office Action dated August 30, 2000; and
- 2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Sincerely.

M. Todd Rands (Reg. No. 46,249)

David R. Marsh (Reg. No. 41,408)

June E. Cohan (Reg. No. 43,741)

Enclosures